



State Board of Education Selects New Commissioner

At a special meeting on January 17, 2007, the Connecticut State Board of Education, by a unanimous vote, appointed Dr. Mark K. McQuillan as Commissioner of Education. Dr. McQuillan will assume his duties as commissioner on April 16, 2007.

Dr. McQuillan is currently the Executive Director/President of the EDCO Collaborative/

The Education Collaborative for Greater Boston, which is the State's oldest and most diverse provider of contracted education services in the greater Boston area. Prior to that, he was Deputy Commissioner and Chief Operational Officer for the Massachusetts Department of Education, with statewide responsibility for implementing No Child Left Behind in Massachusetts. He was also a superintendent of schools in Massachusetts for 12 years.

His priorities will include carrying out the goals of the State Board of Education, which include closing the achievement gap, improving opportunities for quality preschool education and reforming the state's high schools.

In his remarks to the Board, Dr. McQuillan stated that he looked forward to working with State Department staff and that he wants to meet with education leaders at both the state and local levels as soon as possible.

The Commissioner serves as chief executive officer of the State Department of Education and oversees a budget of more than \$2.3 billion.

Dr. McQuillan earned his Ed.D. from Harvard University where he also served on the editorial board of the *Harvard Educational Review*. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of California at Berkeley.